

The following Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A torque converter to transmit torque by fluid, comprising:
 - a front cover being configured to receive torque;
 - an impeller forming a fluid chamber with said front cover and including an impeller shell and a plurality of impeller blades fixed to said impeller shell;
 - a turbine being located facing said impeller within said fluid chamber, including a turbine shell and a plurality of turbine blades fixed to said turbine shell; and
 - a stator being located between said impeller and said turbine to adjust the flow of the fluid from said turbine to said impeller,
 - said impeller, said turbine, and said stator constituting a torus,
 - flattening (~~L/D1~~) L/D1 being less than or equal to 0.18 in said torus, wherein D1 is an outer diameter and L is an axial direction length,
 - a surface of said impeller shell on which said impeller blades are fixed having an impeller straight portion showing a straight line in a cross section,
 - a surface of said turbine shell on which said turbine blades are fixed having a turbine straight portion showing a straight line in a cross section, and
 - a ratio St/L being in the range between 0.1 and 0.7, L being an axial direction length of said torus and St being a length of said turbine straight portion.

2. (Original) A torque converter according to claim 1, wherein
said impeller straight portion is formed at a radially intermediate portion of said
impeller shell, and
said turbine straight portion is formed at a radially intermediate portion of said turbine
shell.

3. (Previously Presented) A torque converter according to claim 2,
wherein
said impeller straight portion and said turbine straight portion extend perpendicularly
to a rotational axis of said torque converter.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Currently Amended) A torque converter according to claim ~~[[4]]~~³, wherein
a length ~~[[Si]]~~ of said impeller straight portion is more than or equivalent ~~with~~ to said
length ~~St~~ of said turbine straight portion.

6. (Currently Amended) A torque converter according to claim 5, wherein
said length ~~[[Si]]~~ of said impeller straight portion is longer than or equal to 1.15 times
said length ~~St~~ of said turbine straight portion.

7. (Canceled).

8. (Currently Amended) A torque converter according to claim ~~[[7]]~~2, wherein a length $[[S_i]]$ of said impeller straight portion is more than or equivalent ~~with~~ to said length S_t of said turbine straight portion.

9. (Currently Amended) A torque converter according to claim 8, wherein said length $[[S_i]]$ of said impeller straight portion is longer than or equal to 1.15 times said length S_t of said turbine straight portion.

10. (Previously Presented) A torque converter according to claim 1, wherein said impeller straight portion and said turbine straight portion extend perpendicularly to a rotational axis of said torque converter.

11.-13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently Amended) A torque converter according to claim 10, wherein a length $[[S_i]]$ of said impeller straight portion is more than or equivalent ~~with~~ to a length S_t of said turbine straight portion.

15. (Currently Amended) A torque converter according to claim 14, wherein said length $[[S_i]]$ of said impeller straight portion is longer than or equal to 1.15 times said length S_t of said turbine straight portion.

16. (Canceled).

17. (Currently Amended) A torque converter according to claim [[16]]¹, wherein a length [[Si]] of said impeller straight portion is more than or equivalent ~~with~~ to said length St of said turbine straight portion.

18. (Currently Amended) A torque converter according to claim 17, wherein said length [[Si]] of said impeller straight portion is longer than or equal to 1.15 times said length St of said turbine straight portion.

19. (Currently Amended) A torque converter, ~~according to claim 1, wherein~~
comprising:

a front cover being configured to receive torque;

an impeller forming a fluid chamber with said front cover and including an impeller shell and a plurality of impeller blades fixed to said impeller shell;

a turbine being located facing said impeller within said fluid chamber, including a turbine shell and a plurality of turbine blades fixed to said turbine shell; and

a stator being located between said impeller and said turbine to adjust the flow of the fluid from said turbine to said impeller,

said impeller, said turbine, and said stator constituting a torus,

flattening $L/D1$ being less than or equal to 0.18 in said torus, wherein D1 is an outer diameter and L is an axial direction length,

a surface of said impeller shell on which said impeller blades are fixed having an impeller straight portion showing a straight line in a cross section,

a surface of said turbine shell on which said turbine blades are fixed having a turbine straight portion showing a straight line in a cross section,

a length $[[Si]]$ of said impeller straight portion $[[is]]$ being more than or equivalent ~~with to~~ a length St of said turbine straight portion.

20. (Currently Amended) A torque converter according to claim $[[17]]19$, wherein said length $[[Si]]$ of said impeller straight portion is longer than or equal to 1.15 times said length St of said turbine straight portion.

21. (New) A torque converter according to claim 20, wherein said impeller straight portion is formed at a radially intermediate portion of said impeller shell, and said turbine straight portion is formed at a radially intermediate portion of said turbine shell.

22. (New) A torque converter according to claim 21, wherein said impeller straight portion and said turbine straight portion extend perpendicularly to a rotational axis of said torque converter.

23. (New) A torque converter according to claim 19, wherein

said impeller straight portion is formed at a radially intermediate portion of said impeller shell, and

said turbine straight portion is formed at a radially intermediate portion of said turbine shell.

24. (New) A torque converter according to claim 23, wherein

said impeller straight portion and said turbine straight portion extend perpendicularly to a rotational axis of said torque converter.